

LEGISLATIVE REMARKS.—A proposition has been made to reorganize the committee for the revision of the constitution. The committee is entitled to a clerk; at least, it had one for itself alone last session. The General Assembly is on the route to retrenchment when it gets a shorthand writer at the price of a common scribe. Congress pays three times the sum for stenographers.

There seems to be a great unanimity of opinion among members on one subject: that there shall be no more caucuses.

A petition was presented yesterday praying the General Assembly to divorce a man from his wife. The petition has been seen, but such petitions presented in recent years, and they have all been rejected—"by a large majority."

Members have commenced drawing their mileage under the new law. They pay their mileage at the rate of \$2 per mile until they exhaust their \$540. This plan will save a great amount of labor in issuing and auditing the certificates. Under the old system members could, and many did, draw every day.

John Bell Biggs, Esq., has appointed the following clerks: David A. Carter, S. Bassett French, William F. Rose, Monroe Kelly, R. A. Ayres, and J. H. Warrman. Mr. Warrman is the only new appointee.

MARRIAGE OF A PROMINENT YOUNG CITIZEN.—Oscar P. Gregory, a well-known economist and a popular and efficient member of the City Council from Marshall Ward, was married last evening to Miss Mollie E. Wilkinson, one of Richmond's most charming and accomplished young ladies. The marriage ceremony was performed at the residence of the bride by the Rev. W. E. Jenkins, pastor of Trinity church, in the presence of the members of the two families and a few friends.

The bride was attired in a travelling-suit of black silk, and her handsome appearance was the subject of universal comment. The groom was dressed in a full suit of black. The interesting marriage ceremony being concluded, the assembled guests repaired from the parlor to an adjoining room and partook of a sumptuous collection of refreshments and delicacies furnished in Pizzini's best style. After some time spent in enjoyment around the festive board the bride and groom were very numerous and the collection was one of much beauty, taste, and value. The many friends of the newly-married pair wished to see them, and their fair bride a pleasant journey and safe return home.

A CLEAR CASE OF SWINDLING.—Brief mention has been made of the absconding of the junior member of the firm of Cotton, Clarke & Co. The following additional facts have been obtained: Some time since the above-named firm came to this city and engaged in roof-painting. As soon as work was completed, the firm disappeared, and to the amount of about \$250 had been collected. Lester D. Clarke and H. E. Pierce, of West Chester, Penn., collected all of the money except about ten dollars and left for parts unknown. These parties also took all the tools engaged in the business, most of which were the private property of Mr. Cotton. By this piece of rascally Mr. Cotton, who is a gentleman of industry and respectability, is left in an embarrassing position among strangers. He is a poor man, and all of the above money was his, as he had advanced all the money to carry on the business and to pay the bills of the firm. Leaving him almost without funds. The parties are supposed to have gone southward. Mr. Cotton has telegraphed to various points, and intends, if possible, to apprehend the parties and have them punished to the full extent of the law. The case has been placed in the hands of Detective John Wren, and he has gone to work upon it.

ON "CHANGE."—Only one package of tobacco was offered for sale at the Tobacco Exchange yesterday. This was taken in at \$2.25.

Some sales of loose tobacco were made at the Shockey and Patrons' warehouses. The prices of tobacco continue quite low.

The fountain in the court fronting the Tobacco Exchange was being repaired yesterday. The water-connections had gotten out of order.

Under the inspiring influence of Governor Kemper's message Virginia consuls rallied at the Stock Board yesterday. The amount bid was \$8, but holders demanded \$9. There was a corresponding advance in other State securities, but no sales made.

Richmond city stocks are very stiff, 118 being demanded. There are none on the market. Bond-owners are asking 120.

A NEW DINING-ROOM.—The Richmond and Petersburg Railroad Company has just completed and opened to the travelling public a handsome dining-saloon. The dining-rooms adjoin the offices of that company on Byrd street near Eighth. It is nicely furnished, the accommodations are ample, the first-class eating and drinking, and the charges are reasonable. This is now a regular breakfast and supper-table, and but for the enterprise of this company the travel both North and South would be seriously inconvenienced. It is but an exercise of the good management of the desire to please his patrons that has characterized Colonel Shaw since his accession to the superintendency of the road.

THE WEEKLY DISPATCH, containing the full text of the messages of President Hayes and Governor Kemper, with the current news of the week, may be had at our counter, put up for mailing.

THE COMMON COUNCIL.

RESOLUTIONS FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS.—FINANCE MATTERS.—A PROPOSITION TO FURNISH THE VOLUNTEER COMPANIES WITH GAS FREE OF CHARGE. THE MAYOR'S VETO ON WOODEN BUILDINGS. GRANTED BY THE COMMITTEE—LIGHT-BUSINESS FROM THE OTHER BRANCH. WHAT THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT COST THE CITY.—ELECTION OF MR. CAMPBELL TO FILL THE VACANCY IN MONROE WARD.—THE FINANCE COMMITTEE'S ADVERSE REPORT TO SUBSCRIBING \$25,000 TO AID IN REPAIRING THE CANAL.—A PROTRACTED DISCUSSION.—THE SUBJECT FINALLY REFERRED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.—THANKS TO CITY OFFICERS FOR SERVICES DURING THE FLOOD, &c., &c.

A called meeting of the Common Council was held yesterday afternoon in the Council chamber—President George L. Christian in the chair. Present: Messrs. Ellett, Foster, Harrow, Haxall, Hayes, Higgins, King, Lauer, Manson, Metzger, Oliver, Skinker, Starke, Stokes, Straus, Talbot, Taylor, Timberlake, Vandervall, Whitlock, and Wood.

Mr. Curtis presented the report of the Committee on Streets, appropriating the following sums from the street fund for the purposes named: \$57 for place flagging across Twenty-ninth street, corner of Grace; \$66 for flagging on the south side of Capitol street, crossing Governor street; \$1,280 to curb and gutter the eastern line Laurel street from Franklin to Graham street from Broad to Clay; \$68 for granite curb and gutter on Nineteenth street, west side, corner of Marshall street.

The committee deem it inexpedient to change section 12 of chapter 33 of the ordinances of the City of Richmond, which relate to the street fund.

After the reading of the resolutions in the street report Mr. Straus moved to lay all expenses for street improvements on the table for the balance of the year. He said the account of pay-rolls of the gas and water companies were short, and the contingent fund was short over \$4,000. He was willing that the work should be done next year when there was money to the credit of streets.

Mr. Curtis opposed the motion with much vehemence. He said that but a few hundred dollars were needed for the work called for in the resolutions, and he hoped the gentleman would withdraw the motion.

Mr. Straus declined to withdraw the motion. He reminded the Council that the work had been done in the past, and it had been said that if at the end of the year the contingent fund needed money it could be taken from the street fund.

Mr. Taylor also spoke warmly in opposition to the motion was lost—aye, 11; noes, 18. The first two resolutions in the report were adopted.

The third resolution, appropriating \$1,280 for certain improvements in the West End near Clark street, was lost, not receiving the requisite two-thirds vote. The rest of the report was adopted.

FINANCE MATTERS.—Mr. Straus, from the Committee on Finance, presented resolutions rejecting the petition of E. R. Isbell asking refund of assessment, &c.; abating tax-bill of 1877 against Citizens' Bank in the sum of \$501.11 (erroneous assessment); refunding \$38.50 to Lewis Dell for erroneous assessment; transferring \$1,500 to James River Improvement account from salaries and city police accounts; rejecting petition of Leo P. Wheat for purchase of land; and abating tax-bill of \$13.20 against J. N. Cooke.

The resolutions and report were adopted.

Mr. Higgins, from the Committee on Light, presented a report stating that in view of the fact that the appropriation for account of common buildings, &c., was exhausted, the committee are restrained from recommending further extensions of gas-mains or the erection of additional street-lamps, as asked for in several petitions now before the committee.

The committee presented an amendment to the Ordinance so as to furnish the armories of volunteer companies with gas free of cost.

Mr. Higgins moved to suspend the rules and consider the report.

Mr. Curtis opposed the motion. He said the committee are restrained from recommending further extensions of gas-mains or the erection of additional street-lamps, as asked for in several petitions now before the committee.

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